

DOLBY CHADWICK GALLERY

Terry St. John

Dolby Chadwick Gallery is pleased to announce an exhibition of recent oil paintings and brush-and-ink drawings by Terry St. John, on view from March 7 to 28, 2020. Born in Sacramento in 1934, St. John has lived in the San Francisco Bay Area for most of his life. He is widely regarded as among the foremost artists working in the tradition of Bay Area Figuration.

St. John's paintings are studies in light, color, and form. This body of work shows the artist grappling with familiar questions about how these three fundamental elements interact to create, model, harmonize, and transmute. He situates nude female figures in intimate settings, often surrounded by a minimal array of objects—such as a piece of furniture, a cup, or a plant—with which their bodies enter into a visual dialogue. Light, color, and form echo and respond to one another, locking the abstracted compositions into often kaleidoscopic frameworks despite his loose, luscious brushwork. The rich impasto of the paintings' surfaces heightens the corporeality of the human body while also weaving it deeper into its milieu, as St. John handles each painting's component parts equally.

In several of these newer works, the primary dialogue is not between body and object but rather body and body, as in *Two Lanna Women in Repose* (2019). Here, a pair of seated women are strikingly arranged so that one looks directly out toward the viewer while the other faces her companion, the fleshy cello of her backside on full view. Light filters in from the left, etching dark shadows across the opposite sides of their bodies. There is an immediacy to this and other recent works that underscores the capricious relationship between light, color, and form, which is constantly shifting with the arc of the sun, the movement of the models, the passage of time.

Parallels can be drawn between St. John's work and that of other California artists such as David Park, Richard Diebenkorn, and James Weeks, under whom St. John studied prior to beginning his MFA studies at the California College of Arts and Crafts. Like St. John, these artists foregrounded an emphatic use of color to depict the world through an interlocking series of shapes—a hallmark of Bay Area Figuration. Despite his close ties to California, St. John has spent parts of recent years working in Thailand, where he finds he can focus on his work without distraction while exploring different qualities of light. His studio is an old ice cream factory, which is large enough to allow him to view his paintings from a great distance or lined up next to one another as he considers his next move.

Terry St. John was born in Sacramento, California, in 1934. He earned a BA from the University of California, Berkeley, in 1958, and an MFA from the California College of Arts and Crafts in 1966. From 1970 until 1990, he was curator of modern painting at the Oakland Museum of California and then served for six years as the chairperson of the art department at Notre Dame de Namur University in Belmont, California. His art can be found in the permanent collections of the de

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Young, Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco; Oakland Museum of California; San Jose Museum of Art; and Crocker Art Museum, Sacramento. This will be his fourth solo exhibition with the Dolby Chadwick Gallery.

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Terry St. John

EDUCATION

- 1966 MFA from California College of Arts and Crafts, Oakland, CA
- 1960 California School of Fine Arts, San Francisco, CA
- 1958 BA from University of California, Berkeley, CA

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2020 Dolby Chadwick Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 2017 *Figures, Landscapes & Still Lifes: Six Decades of Painting*, Dolby Chadwick Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 2016 *Close Views & Distant Vistas*, Richmond Art Center, San Francisco, CA
- 2014 Terry St. John, Dolby Chadwick Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 2011 Terry St. John, Dolby Chadwick Gallery, San Francisco, CA
Recent Painting, Figure and Landscape, San Marco Gallery at Dominican University, San Rafael, CA
- 2006 Terry St. John, Hackett-Freedman Gallery, San Francisco, CA (also '03, '01, '99, '96)
Hackett-Freedman Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 2004 Terry St. John: Bay Area Landscape Painter, Triton Museum, San Jose, CA
Triton Museum, San Jose, CA
- 2002 Model/Artist: Figurative Drawings 1961–2001, Wiegand Gallery,
Notre Dame de Namur University, Belmont, CA
- 1998 Hearst Art Gallery, St. Mary's College, Moraga, CA
- 1994 Contemporary Realist Gallery, San Francisco, CA (also '91)
- 1991 College of Notre Dame, Belmont, CA
- 1990 Fresno Metropolitan Museum, Fresno, CA
- 1989 Vulcan Cafe Gallery, Oakland, CA
- 1985 Victor Fischer Galleries, Oakland, CA (also '88)
Eloise Pickard-Smith Gallery, University of California, Santa Cruz, CA
- 1984 Sheldon Memorial Art Gallery, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, NE
- 1982 Walnut Creek Art Center, Walnut Creek, CA
- 1981 Brook House, Orinda, CA (also '83)
- 1978 University of Mississippi, Oxford, MS
- 1977 Robert Mondavi Winery, Napa, CA
- 1975 Stevenson College, University of California, Santa Cruz, CA
Holy Names College, Oakland, CA

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2017 Abstracts from Life, New Museum Los Gatos, Los Gatos, CA
- 2014 Breakfast Group, Richmond Art Center, Richmond, CA
- 2013 Breakfast Group, Carl Cherry Center for the Arts, Carmel, CA
Evolution of Style, Arts Benicia Gallery, Benicia, CA
- 2007 Landscapes: Rural and Urban Realities, Triton Museum of Art, Santa Clara, CA

DOLBY CHADWICK GALLERY

- 2000 Hackett-Freedman Gallery Artists, Shasta College Art Gallery, Redding, CA
- 1999 Contemporary Bay Area Painters, Diane Nelson Gallery, Laguna Beach, CA
Side by Side: Plein Air Paintings by Lundy Siegriest and Terry St. John, Museum of Art & History, Santa Cruz, CA
Recent Work: Paintings by Terry St. John, Dennis Hare, Larry Cohen, John Dubrow, and others, Hackett-Freedman Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 1998 Select Works: A Group Exhibition featuring Emerging and Established Artists, Hackett-Freedman Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 1997 10th Anniversary Exhibition, Hackett-Freedman Gallery, San Francisco, CA
A Celebration of Three Decades, Berkeley Art Center, Berkeley, CA
- 1996 CCAC: Past, Present and Future, California College of Arts and Crafts, Oakland, CA
Substance and Light: The Work of Four Bay Area Painters, California Museum of Art, Santa Rosa, CA
- 1995 Contemporary Plein Air Painters, The Art Museum of Santa Cruz County, Santa Cruz, CA
Plein Air Painters, Pope Gallery, Santa Cruz, CA
- 1994 New Bay Area Painting, Contemporary Realist Gallery, San Francisco, CA
Bay to Delta, Weir Gallery, San Francisco, CA
Landscape Into Art, Florence Ludins-Katz Memorial Gallery, National Institute of Art & Disabilities, Richmond, CA
Group Exhibition, Thomas Babeor & Co., La Jolla, CA
- 1993 Contemporary Realism, Central and Northern California Landscapes, Monterey Peninsula Museum of Art, Monterey, CA
Vanishing Point: A Look at Contemporary Landscape Painting, Bedford Gallery, Walnut Creek, CA
Bay Area Painting, Contemporary Realist Gallery, San Francisco, CA
Landscape, Skyline College, San Bruno, CA
These Are a Few of My Favorite Things: The Fine Art of Collecting Art, Gallery Concord, Concord, CA
- 1992 A Day in the Country, California Landscape Painting, I Wolk Gallery, St. Helena, CA
- 1991 Artists from Contemporary Realist Gallery, New York Academy of Art, New York, NY (92)
- 1991 The Breakfast Group, Holy Names College, Oakland, CA
New Bay Area Painting II, Contemporary Realist Gallery, San Francisco, CA
Bay Area Landscape Painting, Santa Rosa Junior College Art Gallery, Santa Rosa, CA
- 1990 Once By The Pacific, Gallery North, Setauket, NY
Slopes of Diablo II, Valley Art Gallery, Walnut Creek, CA
Fifth Avenue Realists, Joseph Chowning Gallery, San Francisco, CA
The Outdoor Studio: Paintings of Contra Costa, Civic Arts Gallery, Walnut Creek, CA
- 1989 New Bay Area Painting, Contemporary Realist Gallery, San Francisco, CA
The Trading Company, Center Gallery, University of California Extension, San Francisco, CA
Terry St. John and Friends, Banaker Gallery, Walnut Creek, CA
Views of Diablo, Los Medanos College, Pittsburg, CA

DOLBY CHADWICK GALLERY

- Marine Views, City of Concord Art Gallery, Concord, CA
- 1988 Breakfast Club, Wiegand Gallery, College of Notre Dame, Belmont, CA
- 1985 Bay Area Seen, Hall of Flowers, San Francisco, CA
- 1984 Robert Poplack, Paul Carey, Lundy Siegriest, Bill Steiger and Terry St. John, Glastonbury Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 1982 Rolling Hills and Purple Cows, Walnut Creek Art Center, Walnut Creek, CA
- 1980 Notre Dame de Namur University, Belmont, CA
- 1978 Jerry Carlin, Anthony Holdsworth, Terry St. John, Berkeley Art Center, Berkeley, CA
Lundy Siegriest, Terry St. John, Santa Rosa Junior College, Santa Rosa, CA
- 1977 20 Bay Area Artists, Richmond Art Center, Richmond, CA
Christmas Giving, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, CA
- 1976 Done in the Open, Triangle Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 1975 Lester Gallery, Inverness, CA
- 1973 First Invitational, Palo Alto Cultural Center, Nanny Goat Hill Gallery, Palo Alto, CA
- 1972 Three, College of Notre Dame, Belmont, CA
- 1966 Contemporary Southern Artists, (traveling exhibition, 1967)
- 1965 James D. Phelan Award Show, California Palace of the Legion of Honor, San Francisco, CA
Lucien Labaudt Gallery, San Francisco, CA

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 2017 Mythos, Neene , "Terry St. John Art Gets a Retrospective at Dolby Chadwick Gallery", Widewalls, May 21, 2017.
- 2011 Selz, Peter, "Terry St. John," Art in America, October 2011.
- 2006 Champion, Peter , "Terry St. John," Terry St. John: Studio Figures and Landscape Paintings, Hackett-Freedman Gallery, San Francisco, CA.
"Hackett-Freedman Gallery proudly presents," Concierge Newsletter.
"Terry St. John at Hackett-Freedman Gallery", Art News, October, 2006.
- 2004 Ganglehoff, Bonnie , "On the Verge," Southwest Art, April.
- 2003 Nixon, Bruce, Terry St. John: New Figurative and Landscape Paintings, Hackett-Freedman Gallery, San Francisco, CA.
- 1999 Carasso, Roberta, "Bay Area painters exhibit at Nelson," Laguna News Post, November 11.
W.S. Di Piero, On Terry St. John, Hackett-Freedman Gallery, San Francisco, CA.
Long, Andrew, Art & Antiques, March, p. 36.
Machotka, Pavel, Style & Psyche: The Art of Lundy Siegriest and Terry St. John, Hampton Press, Creskill, NJ.
- 1998 Bowen, Dorothy, "Link to the past of plein-air painting," Contra Costa Sun, January 7.
Thym, Jolene, "Lasting Impressions," The Oakland Tribune, January 10.
Asche, Jennifer, "Landscape Artist Heads for the Hills," San Francisco Chronicle, January 2.
- 1997 Hackett-Freedman Gallery, 1987–1997, Hackett-Freedman Gallery, San Francisco, CA.
- 1996 Machotka, Pavel, Terry St. John, Hackett-Freedman Gallery, San Francisco, CA.

DOLBY CHADWICK GALLERY

- Jenkins, Steven, "Terry St. John at Hackett-Freedman Gallery," *Artweek*, December, p. 18.
- Bass, Ruth, "Realism," *ARTnews*, February, p. 94.
- Peterson, Diane, "Feast Your Eyes on the 'Light' Exhibit," *The Press Democrat*, January 21, p. 14.
- 1993 Runbeck, Kathryn, "Regional Loyalty and Pride," *Art of California*, June.
Tanner, Marcia, "Contemporary Landscapes Bask in Local Gallery Spotlight," *San Francisco Chronicle*, May 12, pp. 8 (Z-1).
"Another Perspective," *Diablo Arts*, March-May.
- 1992 "Contemporary Landscape Painting," *Artweek*, September 3.
- 1991 Shere, Charles, Terry St. John, Contemporary Realist Gallery, San Francisco, CA.
- 1990 Hale, David, "Terry St. John's Brilliant Landscapes," *The Fresno Bee*, October 14.
Hale, David, "Fall Preview," *The Fresno Bee*, September 9.
Harrison, Helen A., "The Pacific View Lives on Happily," *New York Times*, July 22.
- 1989 Coran, James L. and Walter A. Nelson-Rees, *If Pictures Could Talk*, WIM, Oakland, CA.
- 1984 "Sheldon Opens Season," *The Lincoln Journal-Star*, September 2.
- 1982 Fowler, Carol, "Terry St. John's Painterly Response," *Contra Costa Times*, July 12.
- 1975 Albright, Thomas, *Paying Homage to Bay Area Tradition*, San Francisco Chronicle.
Albright, Thomas, "Review," *San Francisco Chronicle*, February.
Shere, Charles, "Rare Showing of Terry St. Johns," *Oakland Tribune*, February 12.
- 1973 Albright, Thomas, "Off-Beat Art From the East Bay," *San Francisco Chronicle*.
- 1972 Albright, Thomas, "A Strong Quartet of Art," *San Francisco Chronicle*.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 1991–93 Artist-in-Residence at Yosemite National Park, CA
- 1990–98 Chairperson of the Art Department at Notre Dame de Namur University at Belmont, CA
- 1990 Visiting Professor at Stanford University, Palo Alto, CA
- 1979–91 Director, Outdoor Painters Project at University of California, Santa Cruz, CA
- 1969–90 Associate Curator of Modern Painting at Oakland Museum of California, Oakland, CA

AWARDS

- 1965 Honorable Mention, James D. Phelan Award

COLLECTIONS

- de Young Memorial Museum, San Francisco Museum of Fine Arts, San Francisco, CA
Oakland Museum of California, Oakland, CA
San Jose Museum of Art, San Jose, CA
Masur Museum, Monroe, LA
City of San Francisco, San Francisco, CA
Mills College, Oakland, CA
Crocker Art Museum, Sacramento, CA